



Celeste King,
Principal

Orinda Nelson,
Assistant
Principal

DOLPHIN PRIDE

SOUTH LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principally Speaking

Dear South Lake Parents,

Eating! Dancing! Loads of fun! Over 250 South Lake Elementary School parents, students and staff observed the contributions of Hispanic Americans by engaging in an evening program of food samplings, dance and a presentation highlighting community resources available to families. In the spirit of the 2011 theme of Hispanic Heritage Month, "Renewing the American Dream," Rockville High School Latin Dancers performed traditional dances, our third grade teacher, Mrs. Ramos, taught us a traditional Columbian dance and our Parent Community Coordinators featured community resources on key areas including enrichment activities to do with our children.

Special thanks to the people who helped to make this evening a success: parents, staff and community members for sharing your delicious traditional Hispanic dishes; Hispanic Heritage committee members who worked tirelessly to make the evening a success (Victor Santiago, Parent Community Coordinator, Nicole Cathey, Math Staff Development Teacher, Rosa Santos, ESOL Parent Community Coordinator); staff members who served during the dinner hour and the Rockville High School Latin Dance Team for their outstanding dance performance.

The first Principal's coffee will be held on Monday, October 24th at 9:00. The principal's coffee is designed to offer parents the opportunity to discuss any concerns related to school policies, procedures and academics. Bring your child to school and then join me for coffee and conversation. Come by - even if it's just to say hello. I look forward to seeing you there!

Reading committee is gearing up for our fall Reading Night. Be sure to join us on October 27th at 6:30 for an evening of family literacy. Breakout sessions will include interactive literacy activities between parents and their children, how to promote literacy at home and take home materials for parents and students. We will also be featuring bilingual guest readers. Mark your calendar and join us for an evening of reading.

As we prepare for reading night, here are a few things you can do to support reading at home:

- ◆ Let your child see you read every day. When they see you read, they will learn that reading is important
- ◆ Help your child choose books from the library
- ◆ Set aside a special time during the week for everyone in the family to read
- ◆ Encourage your child to read every day
- ◆ Have your child tell you and other family members about the book that they have read
- ◆ Encourage your older children to read with your younger children
- ◆ Read aloud to your child although they are able to read on their own.

Sincerely,
Celeste King

OCTOBER 20, 2011

Important Dates:

10/21 School Closed - Maryland State
Teachers Association Convention

10/24 9:00 Principal's Coffee

10/27 Reading Night - 6:30– 8:00 pm

10/28 End of the First Marking Period

VOLUME II

10/31 School Closed - Professional Day

November

11/7 - 11/11 Book Fair

11/10—11/11 12:35 Dismissal
Parent-Teacher
Conferences

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*Nurturing a
Community of
Thinkers*

PTA

Thank you to those who participated in the Joe Corbi fundraiser. Your orders will be available for pick-up on November 10th.

To assist SLES in its fundraising efforts please register with Target, Giant and Safeway supermarkets. A percentage of your purchases will benefit the school.

It's not too late to join the PTA. Membership forms can be picked up in the main office. Membership is \$10 for an individual.

Raising Money for St. Jude's

On Monday, October 24th students will have the opportunity to help patients at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital through the Math-a-thon Program. Your child must have your permission to participate. A permission slip will be sent home with each child. After the slip is returned, your child will receive a booklet of math problems to solve and a collection envelope. Adult family members or friends can pledge a small amount per completed problem, or make a small donation to support the work of St. Jude's Hospital. The Math-a-thon will end on November 23, 2011.

Parent Volunteers

Thank you to Mr. Truesdale and Mrs. Simmons for providing additional coverage during our busiest time of the day, lunch and recess. We greatly appreciate your help!

Lunch Accounts

The cost of a school lunch is \$2.50. Therefore, each week our students who purchase lunch need to have \$12.50 in their lunch accounts in order to receive a hot lunch. If your child does not have money remaining in his/her account a reminder will be sent home to notify you of the negative account balance. Children may bring lunch from home and buy a milk for \$0.50 if they choose.

Healthy Eating

Students enjoy bringing lunch from home. Please remind your children that they are not allowed to share any food with other students. This policy is in place to keep our students safe by avoiding allergic reactions. Please keep healthy eating habits in mind when preparing your child's lunch. At South Lake we encourage our students to eat fruits and vegetables every day.

If you're not here, we can't teach you.
Attend to Achieve!

Student pictures were last week. It is not too late to order a picture of your child if you have not done so already by:

- 1) Having your child may bring in the photo envelope with your payment to the office, or
- 2) Calling Sherling Photography at 703-340-8470, or
- 3) Ordering pictures with a credit card online at:
scherling.preorderphotos.com
The access code is G64PC3.

Some days it is warm and on other days it is cold. It is important to **dress appropriately for the changing weather**. Remind your children that the classrooms are chilly and it is even colder outside during recess.



Red Ribbon Week

Each year in October, we celebrate Red Ribbon Week, a national campaign that was started in 1985 to encourage students of all ages to make good choices, to remain alcohol and drug free and to be responsible citizens. This year, we will celebrate Red Ribbon Week from October 24th to October 28th. Throughout the week, students and staff will enjoy a variety of activities related to leading a drug-free life. Stay tuned for more information from our SGA!

Please keep our children safe:

- ◆ Use the car drop-off circle when driving your child to school in the morning and picking your child up after school
- ◆ Please remain in your vehicle at all times. Cars left unattended disrupt the smooth flow of traffic